

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

COMPLETE LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1-17 : (Canceled)

Claim 18 : A model tooth for practicing dentistry, the model tooth comprising:

- a) a crown part modeled after a natural tooth crown;
- b) a root part extending away from the crown part along an axis; and
- c) a fixing part extending away from the root part along the axis, the fixing part including a cylindrical shaft having a shaft dimension as considered radially of the axis, and an enlarged head having a head dimension as considered radially of the axis, the head dimension being greater than the shaft dimension, the fixing part being constituted of an elastically deformable synthetic material having an elastic modulus of at least 800 MPa and less than 10,000 MPa, the head being radially divided into a plurality of head portions that are movable relative to each other toward and away from the axis, and the fixing part being subject to wear and being detachably connected to, and removable from, the root part to exchange a worn fixing part with a unworn fixing part.

Claim 19 : (New) The model tooth of claim 18, wherein the shaft dimension is constant along the axis, and wherein the head dimension is variable along the axis.

Claim 20 : (New) The model tooth of claim 18, wherein the head portions are symmetrical relative to the axis.

Claim 21 : (New) The model tooth of claim 18, wherein the head is divided by a slot that extends along the axis into the shaft.

Claim 22 : (New) An arrangement for practicing dentistry, the arrangement comprising:

a) a model tooth including a crown part modeled after a natural tooth crown, a root part extending away from the crown part along an axis; and a fixing part extending away from the root part along the axis, the fixing part including a cylindrical shaft having a shaft dimension as considered radially of the axis, and an enlarged head having a head dimension as considered radially of the axis, the head dimension being greater than the shaft dimension, the fixing part being constituted of an elastically deformable synthetic material having an elastic modulus of at least 800 MPa and less than 10,000 MPa, the head being radially divided into a plurality of head portions that are movable relative to each other toward and away from the axis, and the fixing part being subject to wear and being detachably connected to, and removable from, the root part to exchange a worn fixing part with a unworn fixing part; and

b) a model base into which the model tooth is detachably and directly mounted, the model base having a mounting passage for receiving the fixing part, the mounting passage having a locking part for engaging the enlarged head with a snap-type action when the fixing part is received in the mounting passage.

Claim 23 : (New) The arrangement of claim 22, wherein the model base has a shape of a human jaw.

Claim 24 : (New) The arrangement of claim 22, wherein the mounting passage has a first passage portion having a first passage dimension as considered radially

of the axis, and a second passage portion having a second passage dimension as considered radially of the axis, and wherein the second passage dimension is larger than the first passage dimension, and wherein the locking part includes an annular shoulder located between the first and the second passage portions.

Claim 25 : (New) The arrangement of claim 22, wherein the head has a maximum length along the axis that is from 5% to 50% of the shaft dimension, and wherein from 30% to 90% of the maximum length is engaged to the locking part.

Claim 26 : (New) The arrangement of claim 22, wherein the shaft dimension is constant along the axis, and wherein the head dimension is variable along the axis.

Claim 27 : (New) The arrangement of claim 22, wherein the head portions are symmetrical relative to the axis.

Claim 28 : (New) The arrangement of claim 22, wherein the head is divided by a slot that extends along the axis into the shaft.